EXHIBIT A

(Prior proceedings held.)

(Jury not present, 11:09 a.m.)

THE COURT: I don't know of any better time to finally rule upon the motions for judgment of acquittal which I've had more time to think about since the arguments at the conclusion of the case. And I didn't grant the motion with respect to Counts 4 and 6 at the time it was made because I wanted to wait to see whether the jury would convict on those counts. But the jury has now convicted on those counts and I don't want to prolong or to distort the proceedings by having the probation officer create a report that assumes convictions on those counts if I'm going to grant the motion for judgment of acquittal.

By not granting it earlier, my understanding of the law is that I preserved the right of the government to appeal. I could have granted the motions and it would be my understanding that if I did so before the jury returned its verdict, the government could not appeal and the government could not recharge those counts, and that would be the end of it. So whether you may agree with me or not, I think I did the government a favor by not ruling when I could have earlier.

But for the reasons that Ms. Crager stated in her arguments, both written and the oral arguments to the Court, the Court finds that there is insufficient evidence to sustain a conviction on Counts 4 and 6 of the indictment. So the Court

2 counts.

Now, with regard to the remaining counts, this matter is referred to the probation officer for presentence report. The matter will be continued to August the 26th, if that's convenient to both sides, at 9:00 a.m.

grants the motion for judgment of acquittal on each of those

MS. LYDON: Thank you, Your Honor.

MS. CRAGER: Yes, Your Honor. That's fine.

And I did just want to state that we do intend to renew the Rule 29 motion, at least to Count 5, and we intend to do so in writing.

THE COURT: All right. I guess I can't stop you.

MS. CRAGER: August 26th, Your Honor?

THE COURT: Yes.

But you're kind of defeating the -- my purpose stated a moment ago. I don't want the probation officer to prepare a report on counts that are ultimately going to be dismissed. I don't think I'm going to dismiss Count 5, but I can't stop you from filing the motion.

MS. CRAGER: Yes, Your Honor. We could push out the date a couple of weeks.

THE COURT: What do you mean push it out?

MS. CRAGER: The August 26th date. We intend to file a written motion soon.

THE COURT: Would you rather keep the August 26th

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